

Political Participation: A Research Dialog with Leading International Scholars

2 credit points, optional course for B.A (M.A., Ph.D., and Postdocs also welcome)

Course 0-138-1-239 - Department of Politics and Government

Semester Alef, Wednesdays 16:15 – 17:45, online (via zoom)

Course description:

The main goal for this course, which is conducted online (via zoom) in English, is for students to create a dialog with leading international scholars on the topic of political participation from a cross-national and historical perspective. The course includes several classes in which leading international scholars join the course as guest lecturers in an interactive zoom webinar format of a 30-minute talk about their recent research, followed by 30 minutes of questions and answers (“Q&A”). The webinars are open to the public, and students take an active role in planning and leading the meetings. The webinar component of this course is integrated with a European Research Council (ERC) grant project on “[Participation and Representation in the Digital Age](#).” Recordings from the course’s webinars last year (2023-2024) can be viewed [here](#).



Save The Date

Political Participation: A Research Dialog with Leading International Scholars

As part of a course at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev taught by Prof. Jennifer Oser in the first semester of academic year 2024-2025 for BA and graduate students, online seminars open to the public will feature research talks by leading international scholars of political participation.

Seminars will be held via on Wednesdays 16:30 in Israel (9:30 am ET time zone, 15:30 in CET time zone).



December 4, 2024

[Prof. Anne Rasmussen](#) | King's College London
“Costs of Running and Engaging in Politics”



January 8, 2025

[Prof. Ruth Dassonneville](#) | University of Montréal
“Gender Gap in Voter Turnout”



January 22, 2025

[Prof. Yotam Margalit](#) | Tel Aviv University
“Political Consequences of Green Policies”

Lecturer: Prof. Jennifer Oser, <https://www.jenniferoser.com/>

Office: Building 72, Room 669, oser@post.bgu.ac.il

Innovative teaching components focused on student learning and skills-building:

Students will be supported to gain a number of academic and professional skills including: literature review skills in English; peer review skills for oral and written work; oral presentation skills informed by TED talk consultant advice; academic facilitation skills; international online academic network-building skills; and academic use of AI. Students will also gain a close familiarity with the *Annual Review of Political Science* journal – one of the top international journals in the field – including its video interviews of leading scholars which we will view and discuss together in class (see for example video interviews with [Prof. Theda Skocpol](#) and Prof. [Robert A. Dahl](#)).

Eligibility: BGU Politics & Government BA students will be given first priority, and our MA and PhD students are also warmly welcome to register. PhD students must email Prof. Oser directly to finalize their PhD-level course registration form. Course size will be limited to 20 students overall. Space permitting, a limited number of students will be allowed to audit the course (שומעים חופשיים) from other departments at BGU, and from other universities, with priority given to students who are interested in potential future work as research assistants and researchers in the [ERC research project](#).

Attendance: Live attendance and active participation in at least 80% of classes are expected. Students who are unable to participate live in at least 80% of the classes will have the option of submitting an original written assignment in English for each additional class missed in order to receive a grade in this course.

Assignments & Grade components (% of final grade):

- (1) Attendance and participation, including in-class exercises and active participation in our public webinars – 50%
- (2) Literature review skills: two article summary & critiques of research by our guest lecturers (2 pages each) – 30%
- (3) In-class presentation summary and critique of an academic article written by one of our guest lecturers – 20%

Guest lecturers, additional information:

Name and position	Areas of expertise	Webinar topic
Anne Rasmussen is a Professor in the department of political science at King's College London.	Anne is a leading scholar of citizen engagement, interest groups, and representation. She leads an ERC Consolidator Grant on the topic " Advocacy in Digital Democracy ," and a project funded by the Danish Research Council on "Inequality in Social Media Representation."	"The Costs of Political Toxicity" – A co-authored article in press at APSR
Ruth Dassonneville is a Professor in the political science department at the University of Montréal.	Ruth is a leading scholar of voting, electoral behavior, and women and politics. She leads a research team as the Canada Research Chair in Electoral Democracy, and is the editor of the <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> .	" The Cultural Sources of the Gender Gap in Voter Turnout " – A co-authored 2021 article in BJPS
Yotam Margalit is a Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at Tel Aviv University.	Yotam is a leading scholar of the political consequences of globalization, particularly immigration and international trade. He also leads the Israeli Democracy Institute's Economic Reform Program , where he heads research on labor market reforms.	" The Political Consequences of Green Policies " – A co-authored 2023 article in APSR

A more detailed syllabus, course readings, and assignment descriptions will be reviewed in the first class.

****NOTE**:** Students must attend classes **before** the registration deadline and complete a short in-class written exercise to evaluate English skills in order to be eligible to remain registered students in this course.